

CS5500

Reinforcement Learning (RL)

Assignment No. 1

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Q1)

Sol<sup>n</sup> - a) There are 3 states - Tall, short, medium.

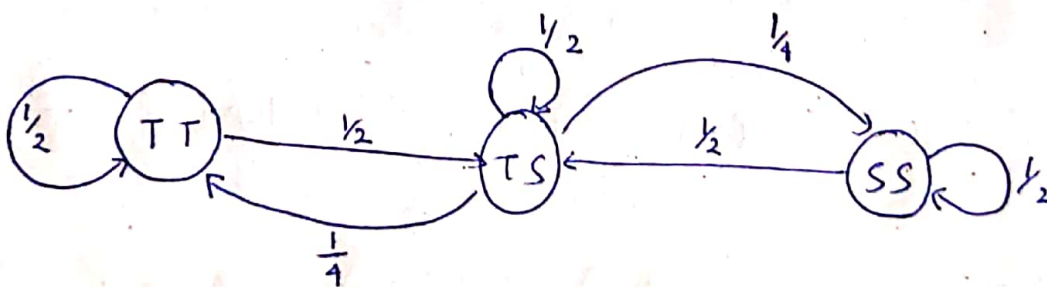
~~If individual is tall~~

If individual is tall, height of offspring =  $\begin{cases} \text{Tall} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{medium} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{short} & \text{w.p. } 0 \end{cases}$

If individual is medium, height of offspring =  $\begin{cases} \text{Tall} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{4} \\ \text{medium} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{short} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$

If individual is short, height of offspring =  $\begin{cases} \text{Tall} & \text{w.p. } 0 \\ \text{medium} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{short} & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$

$\therefore$  the state-space diagram is as follows -



The Transition probability matrix is as follows.

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} T & M & S \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} T \\ M \\ S \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

b) Probabilities that the offspring of

Required probability of first generation offspring

$$= \text{second row of } P \text{ matrix} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & \text{for tall} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{for medium} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \text{for short} \end{cases}$$

Required probability of second generation offspring

$$= \text{second row of } P^2 \text{ matrix} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & \text{for tall} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{for medium} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \text{for short} \end{cases}$$

Similarly,

required probability of third generation offspring

$$= \text{second row of } P^3 \text{ matrix} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & \text{for tall} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{for medium} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \text{for short} \end{cases}$$

c) Clearly, there follows is a trend

∴ Required probability = second row of  $P^n$  matrix

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & \text{for tall} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{for medium} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \text{for short} \end{cases}$$

Q2)

Sol<sup>n</sup> - a) The states are

S, 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, W

The transition matrix (P) is as follows -

	S	1	3	5	6	7	8	W
S	0	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	0
1	0	0	1/6	1/6	1/6	2/6	1/6	0
3	0	0	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	2/6	0
5	0	0	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6
6	0	0	1/6	0	0	1/6	1/6	1/6
7	0	0	1/6	0	0	3/6	1/6	1/6
8	0	0	1/6	0	0	0	4/6	1/6
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

b) The only absorbing state is W

c) We know,  $V = R + \gamma PV$  ; [we have P from part (a)]

Let  $\gamma = 0.9$

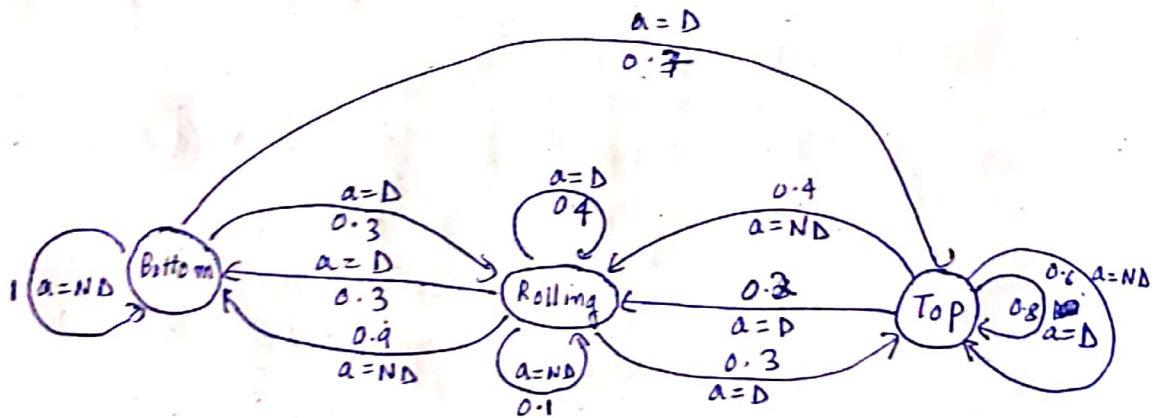
$R = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1]^T$ , i.e., reward is 0 for all states except for state W

$$V = (I - \gamma P)^{-1} R$$

$$= [4.84, 4.94, 4.94, 5.60, 5.60, 5.60, 5.60, 10]^T$$

Q3)

Let a)



D → Driving

ND → Not driving

b) A deterministic policy is

$$\pi(s) = \begin{cases} \text{Drive w.p. 1} & \text{when } s = \text{Bottom} \\ \text{Drive w.p. 1} & \text{when } s = \text{Rolling} \\ \text{Don't drive w.p. 1} & \text{when } s = \text{Top} \end{cases}$$



A stochastic policy is

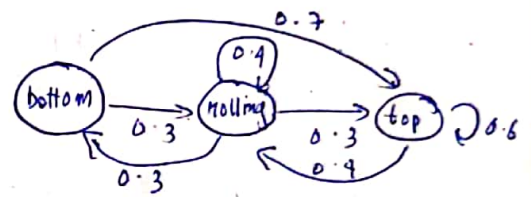
$$\pi(a|bottom) = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Driving} \\ 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Not driving} \end{cases}$$

$$\pi(a|rolling) = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Driving} \\ 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Not driving} \end{cases}$$

$$\pi(a|top) = \begin{cases} 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Driving} \\ 0.5 & \text{for } a = \text{Not driving} \end{cases}$$

c) For deterministic policy, transition probability matrix is

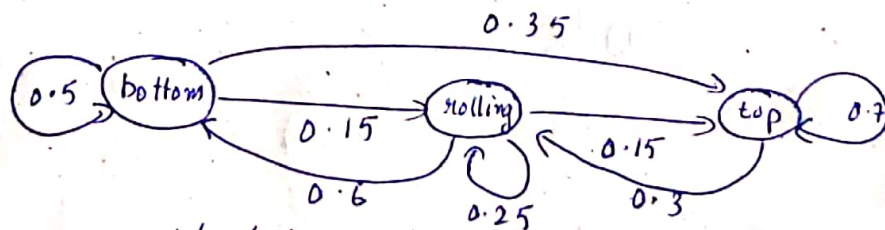
$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} bottom & rolling & top \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} bottom \\ rolling \\ top \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.3 & 0.7 \\ 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.3 \\ 0 & 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$



For stochastic policy, each element of matrix is determined as follows -

$$P(s'|s) = \sum (\pi(a|s) P(s'|s, a))$$

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} bottom & rolling & top \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} bottom \\ rolling \\ top \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.15 & 0.35 \\ 0.6 & 0.25 & 0.15 \\ 0 & 0.3 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$



d) A history dependent policy is

$$\pi(a|s_t, s_{t-1}, s_{t-2}, \dots, s_1)$$

$$\pi(a|s_t, s_{t-1}, s_{t-2}, \dots, s_1) = \begin{cases} 0.3 & \text{when } h_t < \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} h_i \\ 0.4 & \text{when } h_t = \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} h_i \\ 0.3 & \text{when } h_t > \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} h_i \end{cases}$$

Q9)

Sol<sup>n</sup>

For policy  $\pi_1$ ,

$$P_{\pi_1} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A & B & C & D \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \\ D \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0 & 0.9 \\ 0.9 & 0 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

For policy  $\pi_2$

$$P_{\pi_2} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A & B & C & D \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \\ D \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.1 & 0.9 & 0 \\ 0.9 & 0 & 0 & 0.1 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0 & 0.9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

For policy  $\pi_3$

$$P_{\pi_3} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A & B & C & D \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \\ D \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.42 & 0.58 & 0 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0 & 0.9 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0 & 0.9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$R = [-10 \quad -10 \quad -10 \quad 100]^T$$

a) Assuming  $\gamma = 0.9$ ,

$$V = (I - \gamma P)^{-1} R$$

$$\therefore V^{\pi_1} = [755 \quad 867 \quad 691 \quad 1000]^T$$

$$V^{\pi_2} = [755 \quad 691 \quad 867 \quad 1000]^T$$

$$V^{\pi_3} = [772 \quad 869 \quad 869 \quad 1000]^T$$

b)  $\pi_3$  seems to be the best one as here all the values of  $V^{\pi_3}$  are higher compared to others

$$\begin{aligned} & 0.9 \times 0.9 \\ & + 0.8 \times 0.1 \\ & 0.4 \times 0.1 \\ & + 0.6 \times 0 \end{aligned}$$

c)  $\pi_2$  &  $\pi_1$  are not ~~comparable~~ comparable as here in  $V^{\pi_2}$  &  $V^{\pi_3}$  two ~~two~~ states are having same values & in other 2 states, the values are interchanged. However,  $\pi_3$  can be compared as  $V^{\pi_3}$  has all elements greater than  $V^{\pi_2}$  &  $V^{\pi_1}$ ,  $\therefore$  it is the best policy.

Q5)

Sol<sup>n</sup> a) we can do this using either value iteration or policy iteration. In this case, we will solve using value iteration.

Step I:

we initialise  $V_1(s)$  for  $s \in S$ , @ a small value  $\epsilon$ .

Step II:

For all states, we find

$$V_{k+1}(s) \leftarrow \max_a \left[ \sum_{s' \in S} P_{ss'}^a (R_{ss'}^a + \gamma V_k(s')) \right]$$

Step III:

If  $|V_{k+1}(s) - V_k(s)| < \epsilon$  for all  $s \in S$ ,  
we go to step IV, (let  $V_{k+1}(s) = V_*(s)$ )

else,

we go back to step II.

Step IV:

For all states  $s \in S$ ,

$$\pi_*(s) = \arg\max_a V_*(s)$$

$\therefore$  we get  $\pi_*(s)$  such that  $V^{\pi_*}(s)$  is maximum for all states of the MDP.



Q6) The python code for this question is attached with the submission

Sol<sup>n</sup> - a) For  $\gamma=1$ , we cannot find an optimal value or policy as it becomes an infinite process and value function becomes unbounded

b) For  $\gamma=0.9$ ,

$$V_* = [65.6, 72.8, 80.9, 89.9, 99.9, 99.9]^T$$

using  $\pi^* = \max_a V_*^a$

$$\pi^*(s_1) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for right moving right} \\ 1 & \text{" " left} \end{cases}$$

$$\pi^*(s_2) = \pi^*(s_3) = \pi^*(s_4) = \pi^*(s_5) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for moving right} \\ 0 & \text{" " left} \end{cases}$$

$$\pi^*(s_6) = 1 \quad \text{for staying at } s_6$$

For  $\gamma = 0.5$ ,

$$V_* = [1.24 \quad 2.49 \quad 4.99 \quad 9.99 \quad 19.99 \quad 19.99]^T$$

$\pi^*(s)$  is same as for  $\gamma = 0.9$

For  $\gamma = 0.1$ ,

$$V_* = [0.0011 \quad 0.011 \quad 0.11 \quad 1.1 \quad 11 \quad 11]^T$$

$\pi^*(s)$  remains same as for  $\gamma = 0.9$

$\therefore$  it can be observed that the optimal value function changes for different  $\gamma$ . However, policy remains the same.

c) adding  $c$  to all rewards is found out by ~~the~~ running the program in python.

For  $c = -1$ ,  $\gamma = 0.9$ ,

$$V_* = [55.6 \quad 62.8 \quad 70.9 \quad 79.9 \quad 89.9 \quad 89.9]^T$$

For  $c = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 0.9$ ,

$$V_* = [75.6 \quad 82.8 \quad 90.9 \quad 99.9 \quad 109.9 \quad 109.9]^T$$

For  $c = 10$ ,  $\gamma = 0.9$

$$V_* = [75.6 \quad 82.8 \quad 90.9 \quad 99.9 \quad 109.9 \quad 109.9]$$

$$V_* = [165.6 \quad 172.8 \quad 180.9 \quad 189.9 \quad 199.9 \quad 199.9]^T$$

$\therefore$  the same <sup>value</sup> reward is being added to all the rewards, the policy remains the same.

d) For any policy  $\pi$ ,

$$V^\pi = (I - \gamma P)^{-1} R$$



$$\hat{V}^n = (I - \gamma P)^{-1}(R + C) ; \text{ where } C = \underbrace{[c \ c \ \dots \ c]}_{\text{No. of states}}^T$$

$$\therefore \text{ clearly, } \hat{V}^n = V^n + (I - \gamma P)^{-1}C$$

Q8)

$$\text{Sol}^n - L(V) = \max_{a \in A} [R^a + \gamma P^a V]$$

$\therefore V_*$  is a fixed point of operator  $L$ ,

$$\therefore T(V_*) = V_*$$

$$\begin{aligned} |V_{k+1} - V_*|_\infty &= |T(V_k) - T(V_*)|_\infty \\ &= \left| \max_{a \in A} [R^a + \gamma P^a V_k] - \max_{a \in A} [R^a + \gamma P^a V_*] \right|_\infty \\ &\leq \max_{a \in A} |[R^a + \gamma P^a V_k] - [R^a + \gamma P^a V_*]|_\infty \\ &= \gamma |P^a(V_k - V_*)|_\infty \\ &\leq \gamma |V_k - V_*|_\infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore |V_{k+1} - V_*|_\infty &\leq \gamma |V_k - V_*|_\infty \\ &\leq \gamma^2 |V_{k-1} - V_*|_\infty \\ &\leq \gamma^3 |V_{k-2} - V_*|_\infty \\ &\leq \gamma^k |V_1 - V_*|_\infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore |V_{k+1} - V_*|_\infty \leq \gamma^k |V_1 - V_*|_\infty$$

Q7)

Soln-

The value for any state can be found out by ~~using~~ recursively running

$$V^{\pi}(s) \leftarrow \max_{a \in A} \left\{ \sum_{s' \in S} P_{ss'}^a [R_{ss'}^a + \gamma V^{\pi}(s')] \right\}$$

This is carried on for ~~all~~ all the states with different values of  $\gamma$  and  $P$ . ( $\because$  on changing noise,  $P$  changes)

$\therefore$  The required parameters are as follows -

For close exit, risking the cliff,  $\gamma = 0.1$ , noise = 0.45

For distant exit, risking the cliff,  $\gamma = 0.99$ , noise = 0.5

For close exit, avoiding the cliff,  $\gamma = 0.99$ , noise  $\approx 0$

For ~~a~~ distant exit, avoiding the cliff,  $\gamma = 0.1$ , noise = 0